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# NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

02/01/2007

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER			
CECIL	, TERRY K		
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
1723			

DATE MAILED: 02/01/2007

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/019,297	05/07/2002	Toshio Takagi	011700	8814

TITLE OF INVENTION: SHOWER HEAD WITH WATER PURIFICATION FUNCTION

1	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
•	nonprovisional	YES	\$700	\$0	\$0	\$700	05/01/2007

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. <u>PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED</u>. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

#### **HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:**

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

#### PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and Quid this found , together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE FEB 0 5 2007

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

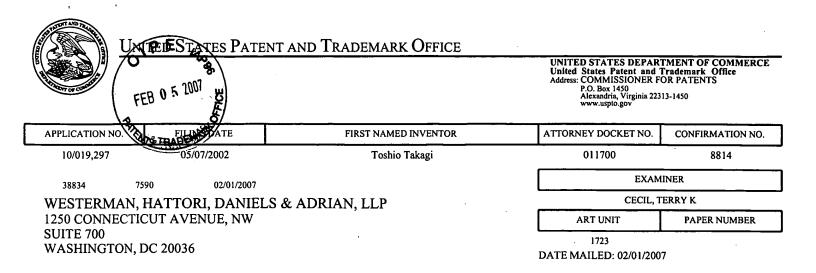
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

or Fax (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS this form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless correct orders and order of directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications. Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission. CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address) 38834 02/01/2007 Certificate of Mailing or Transmission I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below. WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036 (Depositor's name (Signature (Date APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. 10/019.297 05/07/2002 Toshio Takagi 011700 TITLE OF INVENTION: SHOWER HEAD WITH WATER PURIFICATION FUNCTION APPLN. TYPE **SMALL ENTITY ISSUE FEE DUE** PUBLICATION FEE DUE PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE **TOTAL FEE(S) DUE** DATE DUE nonprovisional YES \$700 \$0 \$0 05/01/2007 **EXAMINER** ART UNIT **CLASS-SUBCLASS** CECIL, TERRY K 1723 210-282000 1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363). 2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached. or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required. 3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type) PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment. (A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY) Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government 4a. The following fee(s) are submitted: 4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above) ☐ Issue Fee A check is enclosed. ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted) Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. Advance Order - # of Copies The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number (enclose an extra copy of this form). 5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above) a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. □ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2). NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Authorized Signature Typed or printed name Registration No.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.



# Determination of Patent Term Extension under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed after June 7, 1995 but prior to May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Extension is 0 day(s). Any patent to issue from the above-identified application will include an indication of the 0 day extension on the front page.

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Extension is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

OF	Application No.	Applicant(s)		
01 4s	10/019,297	TAKAGI ET AL.		
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit		
FEB 0 5 2007	Mr. Terry K. Cecil	1723		
\ <del>\</del>				
The MAILING DATE of this configuration appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE WERTS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.				
	1. X This communication is responsive to the amendment of 11-2-2006 and the telephonic interview of 1-16-2007.			
2. X The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12 and 15-27 respectively re	numbered upon allowance as claims	<u>s 1-25</u> .		
3. The drawings filed on are accepted by the Examine	er.			
<ul> <li>4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</li> <li>a)  All b)  Some* c) None of the:  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No</li> <li>3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> <li>* Certified copies not received:</li> </ul>				
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.				
5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.				
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.				
(a) Including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached				
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date				
(b) ☑ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date				
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).				
<ol> <li>DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.</li> </ol>				
Attachment(s) 1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. Notice of Informal	Patent Application (PTO-152)		
Notice of Neterences Office (170-032)     Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	6. ⊠ Interview Summar	y (PTO-413),		
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB	Paper No./Mail Da	ate <u>1-16-2007</u> . dment/Comment		
Paper No./Mail Date 4.	8. 🛛 Examiner's Staten	nent of Reasons for Allowance		
of Biological Material	9. Other			
-				
•				

Application/Control Number: 10/019,297

Art Unit: 1723

Note: Claims 1-12 and 15-27 are allowed and have been respectively renumbered upon allowance as claims 1-25. Since generic claim 1 is allowed, all species are allowed (withdrawn claims 3, 17-19, and 21-22 are rejoined with the elected invention and have been examined).

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

- 1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with S. Adrian on 1-16-2007.
- 2. The application has been amended as follows:
- Claim 1, line 3, "the tip" has been replaced with —a tip—.
- Claim 1, line 35 has been amended as follows: flow path from between said flow path switching valve to and said delivery flow switching valve; and
- Claim 18, line 15, "a flow path" has been replaced with —said flow path—
- Claim 19, line 14, "a flow path" has been replaced with —said flow path—
- Claim 20, line 11, "a flow path" has been replaced with —said flow path—
- The abstract has been replaced (to be a single paragraph and less than 150 words) as on the attached sheet.

Art Unit: 1723

## Required Drawing Changes

3. The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: the drawing sheet will be properly numbered and the drawings will NOT contain any foreign words. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

### Reasons for Allowance

- 4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
- The closest cited art— Burchard—fails to anticipate or render obvious, alone or in any proper combination, the germicidal ceramic and/or sintered magnetic body (i.e. the germicidal ceramic body or the sintered magnetic body or the germicidal ceramic sintered magnetic body) being installed in the flow path between the valves—in combination with all the limitations of the shower head of claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Page 4

Application/Control Number: 10/019,297

Art Unit: 1723

### Contact Information:

- Examiner Mr. Terry K. Cecil can be reached at (571) 272-1138 at the Carlisle campus in Alexandria, Virginia for any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner. Note that the examiner is on the increased flextime schedule but can normally be found in the office during the hours of 8:30a to 4:30p, on at least four days during the week M-F.
- Wanda Walker, the examiner's supervisor, can be reached at (571) 272-1151 if attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful.
- The Fax number for this art unit for official faxes is (571) 273-8300.
- Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mr. Terny K. Cecil Primary Examiner Art Unit 1723

TKC January 16, 2007

Application/Control Number: 10/019,297

Art Unit: 1723

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A shower head for purifying water includes a filter cartridge positioned within in a holding part, a purified water flow path passing through a purification material and a raw water flow path not passing through the purification material. A flow path switching valve switching between the purified and raw water flow paths is incorporated in a head part. A delivery flow switching valve positioned downstream of the flow path switching valve switches between a straight delivery port and a shower delivery port. The valves are controlled independently of each other. A germicidal ceramic and/or sintered magnetic body is installed in the flow path between the valves.

05	Application No.	Applicant(s)		
Interview Summary	10/019,297	TAKAGI ET AL.		
الله FEB 0 5 2007	Examiner	Art Unit		
\g <u>\begin{align*}{c} \begin{align*} \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\</u>	Mr. Terry K. Cecil	1723		
All participants (applicant, applicant's represented PTO personnel):				
(1) Mr. Terry K. Cecil.	(3)			
(2) <u>S. Adrian, atty</u> .	(4)			
Date of Interview: <u>1-16-2007</u> .				
Type: a)⊠ Telephonic b)□ Video Conference c)□ Personal [copy given to: 1)□ applicant 2)□ applicant's representative]				
Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d)  Yes e) No.  If Yes, brief description:				
Claim(s) discussed: <u>all</u> .				
Identification of prior art discussed:				
Agreement with respect to the claims f)⊠ was reached. g)□ was not reached. h)□ N/A.				
Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: the examiner initiated contact with the aforementioned attorney in order to recommend changes that would put the case into condition for allowance. As a result, the claims were amended to correct for problems of indefiniteness and the case was allowed.				
(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)				
i) It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview (if box is checked).				
Unless the paragraph above has been checked, THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.				
	·			
(				
Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.	Examiner's s	ignature, if required		

### **Summary of Record of Interview Requirements**

#### Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

## Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

#### 37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attomeys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by
  attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does
  not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case unless both applicant and examiner agree that the examiner will record same. Where the examiner agrees to record the substance of the interview, or when it is adequately recorded on the Form or in an attachment to the Form, the examiner should check the appropriate box at the bottom of the Form which informs the applicant that the submission of a separate record of the substance of the interview as a supplement to the Form is not required.

It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,

(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)

- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

#### **Examiner to Check for Accuracy**

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.



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